

OCT 12 1961

Approved For Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000200940009-1

Today and Tomorrow . By Walter Lippmann

Fulbright

STATINTL

SENATOR Fulbright has now begun to run for re-election, and all the signs indicate that over and above the local issues in Arkansas, the campaign will be of great interest to the Nation as a whole. For an important part of the opposition to the Senator comes from outside of Arkansas. It comes from radical right extremists like Senator Goldwater among the Republicans and Senator Thurmond among the Democrats. It is highly significant and very interesting indeed that they have chosen to do battle not with a man of the left but with as genuine a conservative in the great tradition of conservatism as exists in our public life today.



Lippmann

Thus the Arkansas senatorial campaign will bring a confrontation between traditional American conservatism and a wholly new phenomenon, a radical reaction sailing under the flag of conservatism. This reactionary radicalism has as little relation to conservatism as the so-called people's democracies beyond the Iron Curtain have to democracy.

THE TRUE conservatives, of whom the greatest in this century is Churchill, are indissolubly at one with the constitutional sources of the nation's life. For them the nation is a living thing which grows and changes, and they think of themselves as participating in this growth and change. Because they themselves are so secure and certain about what is essential and fundamental, the most intelligent conservatives are liberal in temper and progressive in policy.

Senator Fulbright is that kind of conservative, and so he is a standing challenge to the reactionary radicals who

are in revolt against all the main developments of the 20th century.

THEY ARE against the consequences of modern science and technology which have brought into being a concentration of masses of people in cities, masses of people uprooted from their ancestral ways of life. These radical reactionaries are against the welfare state which provides these urban masses with some of that personal security which their ancestors in the country made in their communities. And they are against the regulation of this enormously complex economy, though without regulation it would churn itself up into crisis and chaos.

The reactionary radicals, who would like to repeal the 20th century, are, so they tell us, violently opposed to communism. But communism also belongs to the 20th Century and these reactionary radicals do not understand it and do not know how to resist it. Thus they do not want the alliances with which we have contained communism in Europe at the armistice of World War II. They are against foreign aid which is used to help new countries and weak countries help themselves without succumbing to communism. They despise the United Nations which has so much to do in opening up for the new and inexperienced countries the roads to freedom. They do believe loyally in American military power. But they do not understand it. They do not understand that the United States, though very strong, is not omnipotent, that we cannot set the world in order and achieve total victory over communism by issuing ultimatums. Their irresponsibility in foreign affairs is such that if the President did for the country what they say he ought to be doing, there would be going on at one and the same time another Korean War in South-

east Asia, a somewhat smaller Algerian War in Cuba, and a thermonuclear war about Berlin.

SENATOR Fulbright, with the authority and with the intimate knowledge that comes to him as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate, has stood firmly against such irresponsible nonsense. The Nation is greatly in his debt. The role he plays in Washington is an indispensable role. There is no one else who is so powerful and also so wise and if there were any question of removing him from public life, it would be a national calamity.

Not only has he been the bravest and wisest of advisers. He is also the most far-seeing and constructive. It has been said of him that all too often he has been right too soon. That is a great compliment. In our democracy somebody who is listened to must be right before it is popular to be right. Here Senator Fulbright has a distinguished record which goes back to the Second World War when, still an unknown and unnoticed Congressman from Arkansas, he brought out the Fulbright Resolution which led the change of American opinion against isolation.

He was, I think, the first American public man who realized that if Western Europe was to coexist with the Soviet Union, it would have to unite. And he is the first responsible American statesman to be saying that the necessary counterweight to the development of the Communist power is a much closer political and economic integration of the Western world.

THE DECISION must be made by the voters of Arkansas. But what is at stake is important to the whole Nation.

Copyright, 1961.
New York Herald Tribune, Inc.